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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

T. ONO et al

Serial No. 08/979,810

Group Art Unit: 3625

Filed: November 25, 1997

Examiner: F. Thompson, Jr.

For: ELECTRONIC COMMERCE SUPPORT
METHOD AND APPARATUS

RESPONSE

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 14, 2002, Applicants respond as follows.

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REMARKS

Claims 1-14 and 29-44 remain pending. The claims stand rejected as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Talati et al (Talati) in view of Wiecha. Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection for the following reasons.

As set forth in the Summary of the Invention section of the application, one object of the present invention is to provide an electronic commerce support method and system that is capable of managing and utilizing trading information in electronic commerce. A present status of processing for trading is acquired and the buyer is enabled to readily note the correspondence between orders and delivered products,